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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with President Putin of the Russian Federation (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President  
President Vladimir Putin

Notetakers: Janeen Chupa, Tom Hall,  
Al Guarnieri

Interpreter: Nikolai Sorokin

DATE, TIME June 6, 2002, 7:40 - 7:57 a.m., EDT  
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The President: Good morning, Vladimir. (U)

President Putin: Good morning, George. (U)

The President: A couple of points. I know you're off to a meeting. Secretary Evans will be calling Gref to inform him, like I'm informing you, that our country will be granting market-based economy status to your great nation. And, anyway, I wanted to give you a heads up that this was coming. I told you when we were in Moscow I thought this was going to happen, but we needed it to happen in a way that was in conformance with the regulations on our books. I think it's very good news for our relationship. (U)

President Putin: That's great news, George. Thank you. (U)

The President: You deserve it. You have great vision and leadership. I appreciate your leadership. I've got one other point, and then a question. I sent you a letter on "10 + 10 over 10." I hope we can get this idea worked out so that, by the time we go to Canada for the G-8, we can go forth with a positive program that enables you to do what you need to do at home and gives us the ability to help with the security of weapons left over from the Soviet era. And my question has to

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do with your meeting with the Indians and Pakistani leadership. Thank you for taking on that task. If you have a minute, can you tell me the frame of mind of President Musharraf and Prime Minister Vajpayee? (S)

President Putin: That is a very precisely formulated question. I would like to start by thanking you for this call, and to stress that I was very satisfied with the spirit of negotiations in St. Petersburg and Moscow. This was not just an ordinary visit of the President of the United States to Europe. This was a historic event. We wanted this to be a historic event, and I believe we succeeded. Now, concerning market economy status, I know, to a great extent, this is the result of your efforts and your strong position on this issue. This is to your personal credit. And most importantly, it is the right decision in terms of intensifying our economic contacts. This decision will benefit not only Russia, but also help us work better with American business in Russia. We can see your will and drive regarding "10 + 10 over 10." It seems to me that the Europeans feel kind of at a loss, because we were able to come up with such an open and clear position. And, of course, in addressing these problems, we should think about transparency and the facility of using these means. The only danger I can spot here is as follows. The danger I see here is the desire of bureaucrats at all levels to include in these rules all of the problems that have accumulated over the years, and that they have been unwilling to resolve over the years, and this will result in the package being stuffed with past problems, and it will not be possible to resolve all of them. Our sherpas are working in Canada on this problem, and I hope they will find mutual solutions that will address all the issues properly. Now concerning Pakistan and India. Those leaders did come to Almaty, Kazakhstan. They were present at two general discussions at one table, and they signed two documents that, while general in nature, state over their signatures that all existing problems should be resolved through peaceful means. I had separate meetings with each of the leaders, and during the general meetings and the bilateral meetings I stated once again our common concerns voiced in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and then in Rome, regarding developments between the two countries. And to add an emotional note, I even recalled the Caribbean crisis of 1961 that concerned the United States and the Soviet Union. My general impressions are as follows. Of course, they do not want war, either of them, and the last thing they want is a nuclear conflict. They are striving and working to prevent the

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conflict from becoming an uncontrollable one. They are working to prevent that, and I believe they will do their best to prevent this kind of development. I should say I pushed in my conversations with both. President Musharraf even said he would agree to extraditing international terrorists who committed crimes in India, if they are not citizens of Pakistan. I invited President Musharraf to Moscow on an official visit, and this offer encountered some kind of offended reaction on the part of the Indian leadership, who believe Musharraf is actually lying and encouraging terrorism. When I told Mr. Musharraf that terrorists are active in his country, that there were training camps in his country, he did not deny it. He conceded he does not have full control over them. In any case, in September, elections are scheduled in Kashmir, and the results will demonstrate what the people actually think of that situation. It was surprising to me how harshly and forcefully the President of China talked to President Musharraf. This was unexpected for him, and I believe it was useful. On the whole, I believe if we continue our pressure -- I know Armitage and then Rumsfeld are going -- I believe eventually our coordinated efforts will be successful. I think Mr. Ivanov, our Minister of Defense, is meeting Rumsfeld in Brussels. This is what I want to say regarding India and Pakistan. We will be able to discuss all of this in greater detail in Canada. And the last thing in this regard is at the level of experts and the Foreign Ministry. We are going to carefully put forward the idea that Russia should work as a full-fledged partner with the G-8, including the Minister of Finance. We think we have fulfilled every requirement, and if this problem reaches you and you hear about it, I would ask that you support this desire of mine. (S)

The President: Thank you very much, Vladimir. I appreciate that thought, and thank you for doing what you did over there with Musharraf and Vajpayee. I think it helped a lot. In the meantime, if we have any issues before we meet in Canada, we can talk, but I look forward to seeing you in Canada. (S)

President Putin: George, thanks very much for this call, and please send my warmest regards to your spouse and children. (U)

The President: I will, and the same to yours. (U)

President Putin: Good-bye. (U)

The President: Good-bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --